GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2841
ANSWERED ON:05.12.2007
SYSTEM TO ASSESS DEGRADED FOREST
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Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the Government has any system to assess the area of the degraded forest land in the country;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the details of the degraded forest land in the country; State-wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S.REGUPATHY)

a) Forest Survey of India (FSI) does not assess degraded forest land but assesses biennially the forest cover broken down to different density classes. As per the latest State of Forest Report (2003); the open forest and scrub of the country constitute 287,769 km2 and 40,269 km2 respectively, with total of 328,038 km2, which can be categorized as degraded forest.

b) Not applicable in view of (a) above.

c) The State-wise open forest and scrub figures as per State of Forest Report, 2003 is given in the annexure.